

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COURT OF APPEALS

In the Matter of LIBERTIE CHILDS, Minor.

FAMILY INDEPENDENCE AGENCY,

Petitioner-Appellee,

v

MICHAEL PAUL CHILDS,

Respondent-Appellant.

UNPUBLISHED

October 28, 2003

No. 248684

Calhoun Circuit Court

Family Division

LC No. 02-002653-NA

Before: Bandstra, P.J., and Hoekstra and Borrello, JJ.

MEMORANDUM.

Respondent appeals as of right from a circuit court order terminating his parental rights to the minor child pursuant to MCL 712A.19b(3)(g), (h) and (j). He only argues that termination was not in the child's best interest. We affirm.

The trial court's finding regarding the child's best interests was not clearly erroneous. *In re Trejo Minors*, 462 Mich 341, 354, 356-357; 612 NW2d 407 (2000); MCL 712A.19b(5). Although the child missed her father, maintenance of their relationship was clearly inappropriate under the circumstances. Respondent had been convicted of multiple counts of first-degree criminal sexual conduct involving young girls, one of whom was his stepdaughter, and was serving a forty- to seventy-year prison sentence. Therefore, the trial court did not clearly err in terminating respondent's parental rights. *Trejo, supra* at 356-357.

We affirm.

/s/ Richard A. Bandstra

/s/ Joel P. Hoekstra

/s/ Stephen L. Borrello